

In the Claims

1. (currently mended) An implantable prosthesis, comprising:
a body structure having an outer surface for contacting a surface of a ~~vaseular~~ lumen;
a ~~plurality of~~ grooves disposed on said outer surface of said body structure; and
a string filament portions having a string-like structure and containing a therapeutic substance disposed in said ~~plurality of~~ grooves.
2. (canceled).
3. (currently amended) The implantable prosthesis of Claim 21, wherein ~~said preselected~~
~~and controlled~~ a depth of said groove is equal to about 10% to 90% of a thickness of said body structure.
4. (currently amended) The implantable prosthesis of Claim 21, wherein ~~said preselected~~
~~and controlled~~ a depth of said groove is not greater than about 65% of a thickness of said body structure.
5. (canceled).
6. (canceled).
7. (canceled).
8. (currently amended) The implantable prosthesis of Claim 1, wherein ~~each of~~ said string filament ~~portions comprise~~ is made from a polymer material.
9. (previously presented) The implantable prosthesis of Claim 1, wherein said therapeutic substance comprises a substance selected from the group consisting of antineoplastic, antiplatelet, anticoagulant, fibrinolytic, antimitotic, thrombin inhibitor, antiinflammatory, and antiproliferative agents.

10. (original) The implantable prosthesis of Claim 1, wherein said therapeutic substance comprises a radioactive isotope.
11. (currently amended) The implantable prosthesis of Claim 1, further comprising a barrier ~~formed~~ disposed on said outer surface of said body structure and on said string filament, ~~wherein said barrier covers each of said plurality of grooves~~ to reduce the rate at which said therapeutic substance is released.
- 12-20. (previously canceled).
21. (previously presented) The implantable prosthesis of Claim 1, wherein said body structure is a radially expandable tubular structure.
22. (currently amended) The implantable prosthesis of Claim 1, wherein said body structure includes arm elements joined by ~~connected~~ connecting elements.
23. (currently amended) The implantable prosthesis of Claim 1, additionally including an adhesive bonding said ~~string-like~~ filament ~~portions~~ in said grooves.
24. (currently amended) The implantable prosthesis of Claim 1, wherein the thickness of said ~~string-like~~ filament ~~portions~~ is generally equivalent to ~~the~~ a width of said grooves so as to provide a tight fit between said ~~string-like~~ filament ~~portions~~ and said grooves.
25. (currently amended) The implantable prosthesis of Claim 1, wherein the thickness of said ~~string-like~~ filament ~~portions~~ is generally equivalent to the depth of said grooves such that said ~~string-like~~ filament ~~portions~~ ~~do~~ does not protrude out from said grooves.
26. (canceled).
27. (new) The implantable prosthesis of Claim 1, wherein said filament is a monofilament.
28. (new) A stent, comprising:
- a radially expandable body structure; and
 - a string filament, containing a therapeutic substance, supported by the body structure for